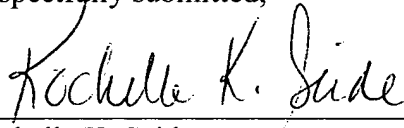


**REMARKS**

This paper is submitted in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed December 8, 2004 for the above-identified patent application. In response to the Notice a complete set of claims with the proper status identifier has been submitted.

It is believed that no additional fee is required in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

(Respectfully submitted,  
  
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